

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6408

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 0260

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE LAST SENTENCE PARA 5, STATE 003066, I BELIEVE WE
PROBABLY HAVE UNTIL LATE NEXT WEEK BEFORE ANYTHING WOULD BE
SAID FROM OTHER SIDE, BUT OF COURSE THIS IS ONLY A WILD GUESS.
(I RECALL SLOWNESS OF MATTER IN NEW YORK SOME MONTHS AGO.)
WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW WHETHER RECOMMENDATION GENERALLY
FOLLOWED MY SUGGESTION OR IF SOME OTHER VARIANT BEING PROPOSED.

2. REGARDING PARA 8, STATE 003066, I SHALL TRY TO GET COMMENT
OUT EARLY NEXT WEEK. EVERYONE IS OVER THEIR HEADS WITH
CODEL TODAY AND TOMORROW AND I MUST OF COURSE TOUCH BASE WITH
SKOUG AND FARRANT, WHO ARE MOST DIRECTLY AFFECTED. WE
CERTAINLY RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE OF LEVITSKY SLOT TO EMBASSY, AND
MY INTIAL FEELING IS THAT FARRANT WOULD BE GOOD CHOICE. AS TO
IMPACT ON OPERATIONS HERE AND HIS OWN FEELINGS, HOWEVER,
CONSULTATION WILL BE NECESSARY. WILL ALSO TRY TO FOCUS ON
PARA 9 WITH TRACY EARLY NEXT WEEK. MEANWHILE, WHERE DO
WE STAND WITH TRACY REPLACEMENT? THIS IS FACTOR (I.E.,
BACKGROUND OF OFFICER IN COUNSELOR POSITION) WHICH MAY HAVE
BEARING ON OVERALL PICTURE.

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